has the leave of the Council. The leave of the Council has to be obtained. If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement and ask whether the member has the leave of the Council. That is what the President has to do. If no objection is taken, the President will mention the hour at which the motion will be taken up. The only objection is he has to take the leave of the Council.

President.—I was enquiring as to whether there is any objection. No objection, I suppose? It is all right. My only duty is to inform the time, the hour at which the motion will be taken up. According to Rule 14 (i), the motion will be taken up at 3.30., this afternoon.

Supplementary Questions.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Sir, I rise to a point of order. If a member was absent when his name was called at the time a question is taken up, and if time is available after all the other members have finished their questions, is it not open to him to ask a supplementary question, if time permits? Rule 9 of the Standing Orders permits it.

President—Is it so? Standing Order No. 9 says only that the first hour of every sitting shall be available for the asking and answering of questions. Then you must be here when the question is called.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

There is no such rule. I am here now, and there is time available. We have 15 minutes more.

President.—Suppose nobody turns up during the first hour? What is the Council to do? The first hour is to be devoted for the consideration of questions and answers. I agree with you there. Suppose there are no questions, are we not to go on with other work? Or, are we to sit quiet during the first hour?

Mr A. B. SALEM.

My point of order is whether, when a member is away, but comes late, it is open to him to ask a supplementary question, if time permits.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

But that point does not arise because we have already taken up another item of business.

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President.—I will consider and give a ruling. But, Mr. Salem, should we not insist upon punctuality?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

We must, we must; but my question requires consideration.

President.—If there is prescribed a particular order in which questions are to be taken up, should we not adhere to it?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Sir, during the last meeting, it was said that the President will not curtail the rights of the House but will extend the right to put questions.

President.—But here, you see the difficulty is that the order of business is disturbed, and you will see there will be some inconvenience if we were to go back. You may put the question at the next meeting.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

What I say is that there is no inconvenience.

President.—You referred to Standing Order 9. There are other Standing Orders, No. 11 and No. 12.

Mr. V. K. KOCHUNNI MENON.

The rules are on page 49, Appendix II of the *Manual*.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

That has nothing to do with this. I will also refer to the Legislative Council Rules 14 and 15. Besides, we have framed rules on the subject.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

With the permission of the President?

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL.

What Mr. Salem means is, now, we are aware of a rule in Appendix 2 of this *Manual* (*Cochin Legislative Council Manual*, page 50). There everything is laid down in serial order. Mr. Salem and the member for Kunnamkulam want to know whether this is *ultra vires*. Regulations and Standing Orders have the force of law. Were these rules which form part of the Appendix 2 formulated by the Government? This book purports to have been printed under the authority of the Government of Cochin, and the Government has nothing to do so far as this matter is concerned. The member for Jews wants to know whether the President should lay down rules in regard to the matter. The Appendix is not part and parcel either of the Council Regulation or of the Rules or of Standing Orders.

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The rules in the Appendix do not form part of the rules, and they are not of any value.

President.—Suppose the President has framed these rules. It is entirely left to the President's discretion and the President may exercise the same.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL.

These are rules published under the authority of the Government of Cochin, which has nothing to do with the articles of the Cochin Legislative Council Law.

President.—But I accept them for my guidance.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL.

That is all the point of order; otherwise there is no meaning.

President.—Let us now refer to those rules. They have been made by me and have been considered by me.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

My point is this. If the President gives a ruling from the Chair, when a point of order is raised, that ruling will, of course, be a most valuable one indeed. If a rule has been framed, it ought to have been on the materials available before the President in his private chamber; it would be different from a rule framed after the President has had the advantage of hearing the members of the Council on the question. Appendix 2 is not a rule of law. It is a tentative statement as to how the business should be carried on. Appendix 2 has only a tentative value. We bring to the notice of the President the rules bearing on the subject. We are certainly entitled to the consideration of our views and to a ruling on the point from the President.

The rules do not forbid and do not lay down that the supplementary questions should follow the questions immediately. The rules are silent on the point. I take it to mean that sufficient discretion is allowed by the rules to the members to think over the questions during that one hour. One full hour is devoted for the answering of supplementary questions. We do not see our answers till we come here. I take it that the meaning of the rule is that supplementary questions can be put within that hour and need not necessarily be put immediately after the question. That is the point of order.

President.—I give my ruling against you.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Against the Council and not against me.

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President.—A ruling once made is binding on the Council. The next item of business is voting of demands.

Voting of Demands for Supplementary Grants.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON.

A point of order, Sir. Has this application for grants been taken before the Finance Committee ? If not, I do not know whether it is in order to make the motion now.

Mr. P. DAMODARA MENON.

There was no time to consider the point.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON.

Want of time is no excuse. The motion is not in order. Unless there is a ruling from the Chair, we cannot be satisfied.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

There will be occasions for many more supplementary grants, and these can be taken together at a special meeting, or at the next meeting.

President.—It is proper that we place the matter before the Finance Committee.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON.

This being the first occasion, of an application for a supplementary grant after the Finance Committee is formed, it will be a bad precedent also.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

All these demands for supplementary grants may be made at a single meeting of the Legislative Council.

Mr. N. PADMANABHA MENON.

In the same session ?

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Not necessary. In Madras at every meeting they vote grants. That will depend on the necessity.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

At the session, three or four months before the end of the year.

President.—The matter depends upon the nature of the urgency. Is there any harm, if we bring it before the Finance Committee and see if we can economise the thing ?

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Small or great, we shall follow the rules. It will be only right that the supplementary grant should come at the end o

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